



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

Mountain
Plains
Region

2420 West 26th Avenue
Denver, CO 80211

Reply to

Attn. of: SFSP-43

JUN 15 1988

Subject: Age Discrimination Relative to Infants in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)

To: STATE AGENCY DIRECTORS - Colorado ED, Iowa, Kansas, Montana OPI,
(Special Nutrition Programs) Nebraska ED, North Dakota, South Dakota,
Utah, Wyoming DHSS

Several questions have recently come up regarding how sites are to handle requests for infant meals without incurring allegations of age discrimination.

The primary purpose of the SFSP is to provide meals to children from needy areas during the summer when school is not in session. Although we do not normally think of serving infants' meals in the National School Lunch Program or the SFSP, those meals are permissible if there is a need.

In the SFSP, prior State Agency (SA) approval is needed to serve infant meals. If a site does not have this approval, it would not be considered discriminatory to refuse a request for such a meal. This is based on Part 225.20(d) and (e). However, if a sponsor felt there was a legitimate need for infant meal service at a site, SA approval could be requested.

Should you have any further questions on this subject, please contact my staff.

Mary Hulsan

for
ANN C. HECTOR
Regional Director
Special Nutrition Programs